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one as familiar with it as with his native tongue takes hold of the work.

We will now call attention to some characters, the interpretation of which seems to give us a proper clue to the signification of the subjoined figures, sometimes very different, however, from the conclusion likely to be reached from a study of the figures (pictures) alone.

Let us take the leading symbol in the "baptismal" scene shown in Tro. 20*. There are in this series four groups, each assigned to one of the cardinal points; this symbol, which is our fig 20, is found in each, hence must indicate some act, thought, or thing applicable to each of the figures below, which represent women apparently sprinkling children. We observe that the upper character of the symbol is the same as that of our Fig. 21, the symbol for *Chikin*, "west;" that the one below it is *Landa's H*, and that to the right his *i*. Putting these together we have *Chic-ha* (or *Chich-atah*)—*i*, or *ich*; "To rinse, cleanse, or wash with water, the child," or "the face."¹ A very simple and ordinary operation, but, like everything else which the priests could bring under control, was to be attended with certain religious or superstitious observances. Possibly this may refer to something of a more public character than the cleansing of children in the household.

In the middle divisions of Plates 24 and 25 Cortesianus, we see what we take to be a series of enclosed graves or sepulchres, the inclosure or vault being of wood fastened by thongs or withes. The dead are seen within, but on top of each a person stooping or lying down. What does this signify? Judging from the figures alone, several different and apparently equally applicable answers might be given. Referring to the text above (Plate 25), we observe the characters shown in our Figs. 22 and 23. The first (Fig. 22) we translate by *Paa-laahal* from *Pablaahal*, "To rip open, unseam; to cut, break or burst open." The second (Fig. 23) by *U-Paa Cimilhi*, "the enclosures of the dead." The article borne by the middle figure, Plate 25, appears to be the same as those in the hands of the individuals Tro. 28*, where they appear to be used in severing the trunks of trees. Although odd-shaped implements to be used for this purpose, I have supposed them to be what may be termed saws, fitted with flint teeth. At any rate, they are used in some way in working in wood. Fig. 24, from same series, is probably a derivative of *Puaxal*, "To demolish, etc."

In Dres. 1^e the figure shows two individuals drawing a seine in which is a single fish, over which is the character shown in our Fig. 25, here turned on its side as in the original. This contains the same elements as No. 3, Fig. 2, *Science*, July 22, translated *Cutz*, "the turkey," but here they are reversed. Turning to Perez's lexicon, we find that *Tzac* is a little fish so named; Brasseur says a little fish resembling a sardine which inhabits the senotes.

As the symbol for *Xaman*, "north," Fig. 26 contains the characters for *ma* and *y* according to my theory, and lacks the *x* symbol, the question arises, How is this to be explained? That some of the day and month symbols, if phonetic, are abbreviated will become evident to anyone who will carefully study them. That the symbol for *Nohol*, "South," if phonetic, is also abbreviated must be admitted. The same is true of that for* north. Turning to Tro. 30^b, we find the symbol shown in our Fig. 27, which is here used for North. In each wing of the upper character we see the hatching indicating *x'x*; the middle one *ma*, and in the lower one the *y*. Supplying the subordinate elements we have *xax-ma-yaam*, "the side without an opening" or "door." As *Nohol* signifies "the great door," this contrast is consistent and gives us a Maya name for north, and does away with the necessity, as Charencey supposes, of resorting to a foreign language for the word.²

NOTES AND NEWS.

AT last there seems to be an awakening among Americans as to the food they eat, if we may judge from the interest taken in the food exhibitions which have been held of late years. A most

¹ Perez limits the signification of this word chiefly to rinsing the mouth, but Brasseur gives it a more general meaning.

² *Actes. Soc. Philol.*, Tom. 20, p. 187.

attractive exhibition of this kind has been opened at the Madison Square Garden in this city, and has combined with it a series of lectures, by Miss Parloa, on cooking. The exhibition ranges from a dairy—cows and all—to the toothsome buckwheat cakes. One thing brought out clearly is the simplification of housekeeping brought about by the use of the partially prepared viands now in the market. But we would suggest that substitutes, occasionally shown, can never take the place of the real articles.

— A European correspondent informs us that a Russian expedition is now in north-east Siberia for the purpose of bringing back a mammoth which has been discovered there frozen in a perfect condition. The writer adds that he has strong hopes the naturalist in charge of the expedition may discover the eggs of Ross's Rosy Gull (*Rhodostethia rosea*), as yet unknown to öologists.

— The Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester, N. Y., recently issued the thirteenth edition of their "Illustrated Catalogue of Microscopes, Objectives, and Accessories." This firm has now made and sold ten thousand microscopes, not including thousands of dissecting microscopes, which means that their instruments are in very wide use in this country, and the firm takes pleasure in stating that a European demand is now growing, showing an appreciation of their work abroad. By contract with the well-known maker, Carl Zeiss of Jena, the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company are made the sole manufacturers, under the patents, of the Zeiss photographic lenses.

— The School of Political Science of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, for which provision has been made by the Department of Political Science of the Institute, and some account of which was published in *Science* for May 20, will be formally opened with a public meeting at Association Hall, on Monday evening Oct. 10. Mr. John A. Taylor, president of the department, and other well-known citizens of Brooklyn, who are interested in the movement, will address the meeting. At the same time the courses of study established by the committee on the school will be announced and described. The committee on the School of Political Science comprises some of the most successful business men in the city, as well as distinguished representatives of the professions and of the prominent educational institutions of Brooklyn, between which and the institute a cordial understanding and co-operation exist. The committee have taken great care in the selection of instructors for the school and the arrangement of the courses of study, and are well satisfied with the results thus far attained. The faculty of the school, so far as selected, consists of Charles H. J. Douglas, Professor of Political Economy, and Lewis G. Janes, Professor of Civil Government. Dr. Janes is well and favorably known in Brooklyn as the president for several years past of that very successful organization, the Brooklyn Ethical Association. He brings to his work in the school maturity, enthusiasm, and thorough scholarship, and will make his courses in civil government both popular and instructive. Professor Douglas, who has been secretary of the Department of Political Science since the resignation of Professor Frank J. Goodnow of Columbia College from that position two years ago, will have charge of the classes in political economy. He is a graduate of Brown University, and has studied at Yale, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, and Columbia, receiving from the last-named institution the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, and an appointment as Seligman Fellow in political science. It is expected that Dr. Douglas's work at the institute will be as successful and popular as it has been at the Brooklyn Boys' High School, in which for several years he has had charge of the work in political science. The matter of raising a permanent fund for the School of Political Science is one that should appeal strongly to those possessed of means and interested in the education of our youth in the duties of citizenship. A guaranty fund has been raised, sufficient to insure the support of the school irrespective of the size of classes for the first year; but a permanent endowment of \$50,000 or \$100,000 is needed to put the school in the best possible condition to do the work proposed by its projectors.